in the Union Budget for 2005-06, the additional excise duty of Re. 1/- per kg on tea has been withdrawn.

Incentives for industrial units in SEZs

†768. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the industrial Units under Special Economic Zones in the country are provided special concession;

(b) if so, the details of facilities provided to such units; and

(c) the estimate of average annual financial aid to such units through these facilities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The major entitlements available to units in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) include duty free import/domestic procurement of goods, exemption from Central Sales Tax on supplies from Domestic Tariff Area and 100% income tax exemption for first 5 years, 50% for the next 2 years and not exceeding 50% of ploughed back profits for next 3 years.

(c) These units are not granted any financial aid.

World Economic Forum

769. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he led a delegation of industrialists and others to the annual meeting of the world Economic Forum at Davos, Switzerland in January, 2005;

(b) if so, what are the major issues discussed at the forum;

(c) whether he has received assurances from the international industrial community on increased foreign direct investment into the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The major issues discussed at the forum

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.